

**News from Rep. Stephanie Herseth**

**For Immediate Release**

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**Herseth statement today following President Bush's comments regarding War in Iraq**

**November 30, 2005, Washington, D.C.** - U.S. Rep. Stephanie Herseth released the following statement today following President Bush's comments regarding the war in Iraq:

"Last year, I traveled to Iraq and met with the general and troops in charge of the training of Iraqi security forces. After seeing those efforts firsthand, I said then, and continue to believe strongly, that effective and successful training of Iraqi security forces must be a top priority. I'm pleased the President shares that view. I hope this renewed focus will enable us to begin drawing down our troops in the region at the appropriate time and to continue to turn over a stable democratic Iraq to the Iraqi security forces.

"The men and women in our military have performed superbly and accomplished their military goals. Saddam Hussein is no longer in power and another election will occur in two weeks. Congress and the Administration owe it to our troops to stop the partisan bickering and work together to craft a practical, successful end game in Iraq. I look forward to being a part of that solution."

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*Congresswoman Stephanie Herseth serves South Dakota in the U.S. House of Representatives . She is a member of the Blue Dog Coalition, a group of moderate Democrats committed to fiscal discipline and strong national security, and is co-chair of the Rural Working Group, which*

*is dedicated to raising the profile of issues important to rural America. She also serves on three committees vital to South Dakota's interests. Agriculture, Veterans' Affairs and Resources.*